

## Claims

- [c1] A system for controlling a function of a medical device, said system including:
- a microphone for receiving a verbal command from an operator;
  - a system control and voice recognition processor receiving said verbal command from said microphone and assigning a function to an input console in response to said verbal command; and
  - an input console controlling said function assigned to said input console when activated by said operator.
- [c2] The system of claim 1 further including a medical imaging acquisition and display system for displaying medical images.
- [c3] The system of claim 1 wherein said system control and voice recognition processor is programmed to recognize a verbal command as a predetermined verbal command.
- [c4] The system of claim 1 wherein said system control and voice recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.
- [c5] The system of claim 1 wherein said input console is a foot-input console.
- [c6] The system of claim 1 wherein said medical imaging device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.
- [c7] A system for controlling a function of a medical device, said system including:
- a microphone for receiving a verbal command from an operator;
  - a system control and voice recognition processor receiving said verbal command and assigning a function to an input console in response to said verbal command;
  - an input device initiating said function assigned to said input device when activated by said operator; and
  - a display for displaying the function assigned to said input device.

- [c8] The system of claim 7 wherein said display displays medical images.
- [c9] The system of claim 7 wherein said system control and voice recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined verbal command.
- [c10] The system of claim 7 wherein said system control and voice recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.
- [c11] The system of claim 7 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.
- [c12] The system of claim 7 wherein said medical imaging device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.
- [c13] A system for assigning a function of a medical device to an input device, said system including:  
a system control and voice recognition processor receiving a verbal command from an operator and assigning a function to an input device in response to said verbal command.
- [c14] The system of claim 13 further including a microphone for receiving said verbal command from said operator.
- [c15] The system of claim 13 further including a medical imaging acquisition and display system for displaying medical images.
- [c16] The system of claim 13 wherein said system control and voice recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined verbal command.
- [c17] The system of claim 13 wherein said system control and voice recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.
- [c18] The system of claim 13 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.
- [c19] The system of claim 13 wherein said medical imaging device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.
- [c20] A method for controlling a function of a medical device, said method including the steps of:

receiving a verbal command from an operator;  
assigning a function to an input console in response to said verbal command; and  
controlling said function assigned to said input device in response to said verbal command when said input device is activated by an operator.

- [c21] The method of claim 20 wherein said verbal command is received by said operator by a microphone.
- [c22] The method of claim 20 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.
- [c23] A method for assigning a function of a medical device to an input device, said method including the steps of:  
receiving a verbal command for assigning a function;  
receiving an additional verbal command for assigning an input device;  
assigning said function to said input device in response to said verbal commands; and  
controlling said function assigned to said input device in response to said verbal commands when said input device is activated by an operator.
- [c24] The method of claim 23 wherein said verbal command is received by said operator by a microphone.
- [c25] The method of claim 23 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.